

USS Seawolf (SSN 21)

Commander Naval Submarine Forces
Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet
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CDR Paul T. Stevens Commanding Officer

Commander Stevens grew up in New York before attending Clarkson University where he graduated in 1983 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He received his commission after attending Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island.

Following initial nuclear power training, Commander Stevens was selected as a Staff

Training Officer at the S7G Prototype in West Milton, New York. His first sea tour was aboard the USS POGY (SSN 647) in San Diego, California. During his tour on the POGY, the ship completed a Western Pacific deployment and earned the Battle Efficiency 'E' while he served as the Combat Systems Officer.

From 1988 to 1990 Commander Stevens served as the Sophomore Instructor at the Naval ROTC Unit at the University of Michigan. During this tour he completed post-graduate study and was awarded a Masters degree in Mechanical Engineering.

After attending the submarine Officer Advanced Course in Groton, Connecticut, he was assigned as Engineer Officer of USS MINNEAPO-LIS-SAINT PAUL (SSN 708) in Norfolk, Virginia from 1991 to 1994. Commander Stevens completed a Depot Modernization Period and a Northern Atlantic Deployment during this tour.

Following his department head tour, he attended the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island and in 1995 received a Masters of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. After attending the Armed Forces Staff College he was subsequently assigned to US STRATEGIC COMMAND from 1995 to 1997 in the Employment Strategy Branch (1511).

After additional submarine schooling in Connecticut, Commander Stevens served as the Executive Officer on the USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) in Bangor, Washington. From 1997 to 1999 FLORIDA conducted three strategic deterrent patrols.

In August 1999 Commander Stevens reported to the Tactical Analysis Group at Submarine Development Squadron TWELVE in Groton, CT, before entering the Prospective Commanding Officer training pipeline en route to the SEA WOLF.

Commander Stevens is entitled to wear the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (five awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Technology and Tradition

SSN 21 is the third United States submarine to have the nickname of the solitary wolf fish.

The first USS Seawolf (SS 197) was commissioned December 1, 1939. Her first WWII war patrol was conducted from December 8 to the 26 1941. Over the next three years, Seawolf conducted 11 war patrols, fervently hunting Japanese merchant and combat ships. She scored countless hits on her enemies and earned 13 battle stars. On December 28, 1944, Seawolf was announced overdue from patrol and presumed lost. She is thought to have been sunk by American bombs seeking a Japanese submarine.

The second USS Seawolf (SSN 575) was commissioned March 30, 1957. She was the second US nuclear-powered submarine to enter service. On August 7, 1958, Seawolf started the then-longest submerged transit, staying under water until October 6 and logging over 13,700 nautical miles, demonstrating the ability of the nuclear-powered submarine to remain independent of the earth's atmosphere for the period of a normal war patrol. In 1964, she was part of the world's first nuclear-powered task force. She decommissioned in 1987.

Facts and Figures

- **Builders:** General Dynamics Electric Boat Division
- Powerplant: One nuclear reactor, one shaft
- **Length:** 353 feet (107.6 meters)
- **Beam:** 40 feet (12.2 meters)
- Displacement: 7,460 tons submerged
- Speed: 20+ knots (23+ miles per hour; 36.8+ KPH)
- Crew: 12 officers, 121 enlisted
- Armament: Tomahawk cruise missiles,
 VLS tubes (719 and later), MK48 torpedoes,
 four torpedo tubes